THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Cellular rates

†1587. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that owing to the rates, serious differences have been surfaced amongst various cellular companies affecting the subscribers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that private companies are thrusting upon the subscribers their own rules and rates as well; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to provide cheap and better service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Sir, Cellular Operators Association of India on behalf of the Cellular Operators have informed that they are not aware of any serious differences amongst various cellular companies in this regard.

(c) Cellular operators are bound to follow the terms and conditions of Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) Licence and comply with the directives of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). TRAI, as per the TRAI Act, is mandated for fixation of tariffs for Telecom Services. It is also the function of TRAI to lay-down the standards of Quality of Service to be provided by the Service Providers and ensure the Quality of Service and conduct the periodical survey of such service provided by the Service Providers so as to protect interest of the consumers for telecom service. All Cellular Operators are required to report tariffs for Cellular Service to the TRAI, who monitors the tariffs to ensure that no unduly high charges are levied on customers. Tariff for Cellular Mobile Telephone Service have

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

shown a continuously down-ward trend in the recent past due to greater competition.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Transit and storage loss

†1588. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the percentage of transit and storage loss of foodgrains during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that maximum loss in foodgrains transportation is caused because there is no proper arrangement with the Railways for booking the foodgrains after weighing it, as a result thereof the Railways do"not issue railway R.R. to food department and the railways transport foodgrains not at its responsibility but at the responsibility of the Food Department whereas the said department is ready to construct weighing bridges at its own expenses; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA) (a) The details are as under:

Transit Loss

(The quantity in lakh MTs; Values in Crore Rs.)

Year	Quantity	Value	Quantity moved	%ge of quantity moved
1999-2000	2.95	234.82	251.82	1.17
2000-2001	1.84	172.00	213.29	0.86 (prov)
2001-2002	1.82	164.00	233.66	0.78 (estimate)

Storage loss

Year	Quantity	Value	Quantity issued	%ge of quantity issued
1999-2000	1.72	157.25	498.67	0.34
2000-2001	2.24	227.00	396.33	0.57 (prov.)
2001-2002	1.98	221.00	552.79	0.36 (estimate)

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.